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Practitioner's Docket No. 17616-705

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Sharkey, et al.)
Serial No.: 08/714,987) Group No.: 3736
Filed: 09/17/1996) Examiner: Shay, D.
For: Method and Apparatus for Controlled)
Contraction of Collagen Tissue)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION UNDER 37.C.F.R. §1.111

Responsive to the Final Office Action mailed June 29, 1998, please consider the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims:

Sub 1
B-1
1. (Twice amended) An apparatus for effecting a change in at least a portion of a selected site of a collagen containing tissue that is adjacent to a fluid medium, comprising:
an energy delivery device including a proximal portion and a distal portion with blunt periphery positionable in contact with a surface of [configured to be positioned at an interface between the fluid medium and] the selected site without penetrating the surface of the selected site and configured to deliver sufficient energy to the selected site to effect a contraction in at least a portion of the selected site;
a sensor positioned at the distal portion of the energy delivery device to detect a thermal energy from the selected site and from the fluid medium, the sensor producing a thermal feedback signal which represents a composite of the thermal energy detected from the selected site of a collagen containing tissue and from the fluid medium; and
a feedback control system coupled to the sensor and configured to receive the thermal feedback signal and adjust a level of energy delivered to the selected site.

Sub 2
B-2
29. (Twice amended) An apparatus for contracting a collagen fibers in a selected site of a collagen containing tissue which is adjacent to a fluid medium, comprising: